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Approved For Release 2002/08/21 : CIA-RDP84-00499R000700140009-6

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : ADSO

DATE: 12 October 1948

FROM : CCD

SUBJECT: Memo from Exec A&M to Exec Director, Subject: Transfer of Supplies,
dated 6 October 1948.Reference: Memo from ADSO to the Director, Subject: Transfer of Supplies,
dated 29 September 1948.

1. In preparing the subject memo, it is apparent that the writer overlooked the purpose of the original letter as set forth therein, namely "to indicate the need for qualified personnel to handle electronic equipment in a proper manner and with due respect to its delicate nature". In point of emphasis it may be stated that the Communications Division, OSO, remains charged with the responsibility for providing communications services and electronic equipment to all of CIA, unless relieved of this responsibility by the Director in writing. Under the circumstances, the Communications Division is in the untenable position of having the responsibility without necessary supervisory authority to properly perform the above functions. The Communications Division of necessity should control the supply and supervise the proper maintenance of communications equipment. So far as the Chief of the Communications Division knows he has in no way been relieved of these responsibilities. The reference memo was submitted merely to make record of the fact that the electronic equipment was not being handled in an appropriate manner, and clearly indicated that corrective steps insofar as this particular incident was concerned had been taken by [redacted]

2. Subject letter in paragraph 1 states that the complaints of OSO "have proven to be generally incorrect", which is a broad statement that has not been substantiated. The reference letter did have one statement that was not correct, namely, it was not raining. This statement was made because the report, indicating that the accident had just occurred, was received on Sept. 21st during a heavy rain leading to the erroneous belief the transfer was made in the rain. However, the following facts were and still are to the best of our knowledge correct:

a. Transfer of electronic equipment was accomplished in open stake-sided trucks under the supervision of [redacted] and, based on witnesses' reports, several of the cases were above the sides of the truck.

b. [redacted] told [redacted] of the Communications Division on 21 Sept. that all drivers had been told that they were responsible for the load and they were to refuse to drive any truck on which the load appeared insecure, and [redacted] assured [redacted] that in the future no cases would be loaded that did not set in the truck by at least 6 to 8 inches.

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c. The RCA Consolette, although returning to stock, was a part of the [] advance air shipment, was purchased expressly for the [] and still remains a part of it. [] stated this had "no basis in fact". As this is operational information to which [] supposedly has no access, it is not understood how he could justifiably make the statement that the equipment is not a part of the [] unless he has operational information that has not been given the Communications Division.

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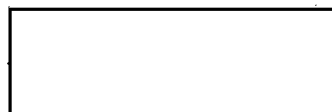
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d. The transmitter blower which [] states was slightly damaged "and has been repaired", had its base casting broken. This item has now been repaired but was not repaired as of 6 October 1948 as stated by [] This required careful welding and a slow cooling process. It is a process that should be attempted only by a competent commercial welding firm, and from past personal experience, it is normally undertaken only at the owner's risk as successful welding of castings is an unusually questionable undertaking.

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3. A review of the complaints by the Communications Division referred to in the subject letter and the results accomplished by such complaints indicates a growing willingness on the part of the Services Branch, CIA, personnel to be guided by suggestions from the Communications Division personnel, when present. This change of attitude has been especially noted since [] visited the warehouse and pointed to boxes crumbling under the weight of the load placed on them. However, instead of taking corrective measures of this type, a plan for preventing this sort of damage is the procedure to be preferred in the care and handling of this delicate and costly equipment.



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